

# *A Taste of the Tuscany Coast and Pleasures of Discovery*

*Hosted by Marco Betti*

*Join Marco on a tour to the exquisite Bolgheri region on the Tuscany Coast, where you will visit the most prestigious wineries in Italy: Guado al Tasso, Ornellaia, and Sassicaia*

## *Itinerary*

Departures from Atlanta: 30 May 2009 Saturday

- *Day One: 31 May 2009 Sunday*

Private transfers from your arrival airports in Italy to Guado al Tasso, the Antinori Estate. Upon arrival, a light introductory lunch will be provided for guests. After cocktails in the living room, dinner will be served at the villa.

## *The Guado Al Tasso Estate*



## *Overview*

Situated in Maremma on the Tuscan coast, 96km south-west of Florence, the Guado al Tasso estate extends from the green hills surrounding the old village of Bolgheri down to the sea. This beautiful plain is called the anfiteatro bolgherese due to the fact that the hills enclose the plains overlooking the sea to form a natural amphitheatre. The Guado al Tasso estate is part of the small, prestigious Bolgheri DOC zone which has been famous for its rosé wines since the Seventies: along with the white wines made here, they were awarded the DOC in 1984, which was extended to the reds in 1994. The area is now best-known and

admired for its outstanding red wines, the so-called SuperTuscans. The estate covers over 1,000 hectares, 300 of which are planted with vineyards, and the rest with wheat, sunflowers and olives.

#### Wines

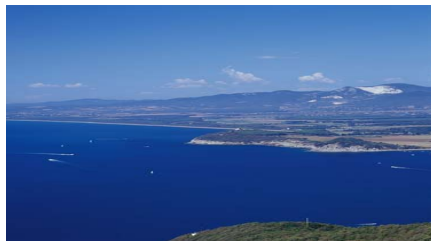
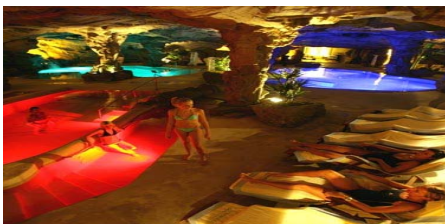
The Guado al Tasso estate makes Scalabrone (Bolgheri Rosato DOC) from Sangiovese, Merlot and Syrah, Vermentino di Bolgheri DOC, a monovarietal Vermentino (made for the first time in 1996) and since 1990, the Guado al Tasso (Bolgheri DOC Superiore) from Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah grapes.

- For more information on the Estate, please visit [www.antinori.it](http://www.antinori.it)

#### ● Day Two: 1 June 2009 Monday

Enjoy a day at the beach and spa! After breakfast, morning transfer to the Tombolo Talasso Resort (3 miles away). Lunch at the hotel restaurant followed by an afternoon of spa treatments and/or leisure at the beach. Early evening: meet Allegra Antinori for a spectacular private wine tasting followed by dinner hosted by Allegra.

### *The Tombolo – Talasso Resort*

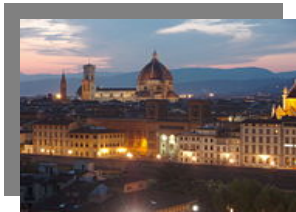
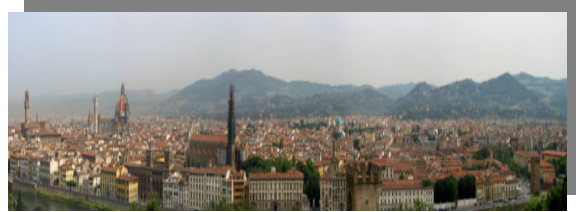


- For information on the Tombolo Talasso Resort, please visit <http://www.grandhoteltombolo.com/>

- *Day Three: 2 June 2009 Tuesday*

Breakfast at the villa, followed by a morning departure to Florence. There, we will take pleasure in a day of art which will include a prestigious private visit of the Corridoio Vasariano - a secret corridor built by the Medici family from the Uffizi museum above the Ponte Vecchio to the Pitti Palace. We will spend the afternoon by shopping at leisure. Late afternoon departure by private bus to Guado al Tasso. Dinner will be served at the Villa.

### *Florence and the Uffizi Gallery*

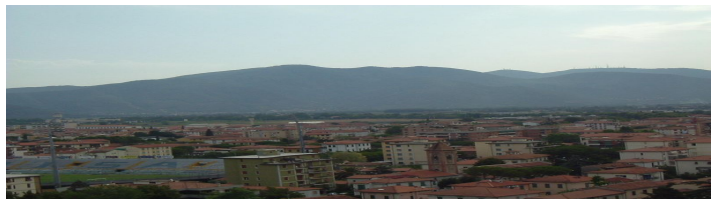


- For information on Florence and the Uffizi Gallery, please visit <http://english.firenze.net/> and <http://www.uffizi.com/>

- *Day Four: 3 June 2009 Wednesday*

Following breakfast, morning departure to Pisa, for a visit to the Leaning Tower. A light lunch will be served at the villa, followed by an afternoon at leisure. Early evening departure for a visit to the Ornellaia estate where we will enjoy a private wine tasting and dinner.

### *Pisa – The Leaning Tower*



The Tower of Pisa is the bell tower of the Cathedral. Its construction began in the august of 1173 and continued (with two long interruptions) for about two hundred years, in full fidelity to the original project, whose architect is still uncertain.

In the past it was widely believed that the inclination of the Tower was part of the project ever since its

beginning, but now we know that it is not so. The Tower was designed to be "vertical" (and even if it did not lean it would still be one of the most remarkable bell towers in Europe), and started to incline during its construction. Both because of its inclination, and its beauty, from 1173 up to the present the Tower has been the object of very special attention. During its construction efforts were made to halt the incipient inclination through the use of special construction devices; later columns and other damaged parts were substituted in more than one occasion; today, interventions are being carried out within the sub-soil in order to significantly reduce the inclination and to make sure that Tower will have a long life. In this entire story it is possible to find a meaningful constant, the "genetic code" of the Tower: its continual interaction with the soil on which it was built.

- For more information on the Leaning Tower, please visit <http://torre.duomo.pisa.it/>

### *The Ornellaia Winery*



The Estate was founded in 1981 by Marchese Lodovico Antinori when he decided to establish a new, truly exceptional wine estate in a beautiful, unspoiled section of the Tuscan coast known as the Maremma. The decision was made to plant Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot as these varietals are most suited to the exceptional microclimate of the Bolgheri area. In March 1999 the Californian wine producer Robert Mondavi purchased minority shares in the Estate became owner in 2002, passing 50% of the shares to the Tuscan wine producing family Marchesi de' Frescobaldi. In April 2005 Marchesi de' Frescobaldi took over total ownership. The team leading the Estate today is inspired by the same principles of independence, integrity, and continuity that have contributed to its recognition and success.

- For more information on the Ornellaia Winery, please visit <http://www.ornellaia.it>

### ● Day Five: 4 June 2009 Thursday

After breakfast at the villa, we will visit the Sassicaia Winery, Tenuta San Guido, for a private wine tasting and lunch. Dinner will be served the Villa.

### *The Sassicaia Winery - Tenuta San Guido*



At the point where the Via Aurelia meets the Viale di Bolgheri is a circle of cypresses surrounding the obelisk that Giuseppe della Gherardesca erected for Nobel Prize winner **Giosuè Carducci**. Beyond the obelisk is the church of San Guido, built by Simone Maria della Gherardesca at the beginning of the 18th Century that lends its name to the Sassicaia estate. The **Viale di Bolgheri** is lined with cypresses, and runs through the heart of the **Tenuta San Guido** estate to the castle and village center of Bolgheri. Tenuta San Guido is an estate of about 2500 hectares, whose most important feature is its diversity of purpose. Less than one fortieth of its surface is devoted to winemaking, while two-thirds of the total is woodland. One hundred and fifty hectares comprise the Dormelo - Olgiata thoroughbred training center, and the remaining six hundred and fifty hectares are cultivated with cereals or olive groves, used as pasture for horses and livestock or are part of Italy's first private bird sanctuary – The Oasi of Bolgheri. The estate rises from the Tyrrhenian Sea to the hills behind the castle of Castiglioncello, at a height of 396 meters – more than one thousand feet above sea level. This altitude makes for a very striking landscape, as well as a fabulous microclimate.

- For more information on the Sassicaia Winery, please visit [www.sassicaia.com](http://www.sassicaia.com)

- ***Day Six: 5 June 2009 Friday***

After breakfast at the villa, we will visit the Castello di Querceto owned by the Marchesi Ginori, for a private wine tasting and lunch. Dinner will be served at the villa.

### *Castello Ginori of Querceto*

Castello Ginori is an ancient village, near Volterra, on the slopes of Mount Aneo in the center of a large estate. The origin of the village goes back to 1000 a.c., when it belonged to the church of Massa Marittima. In 1447 Querceto was conquered by the troops of Alfonso d' Aragona King of Naples in war against Florence. The 16th century was marked by the Florentine domination, because after the conquest of Volterra the inhabitants of Querceto had to swear fealty to the "Signoria" of Florence. It was during this period, around 1543, that the noble family Lisci of Volterra got involved with Querceto. In 1786 the last Lisci's descendant, Francesca, married Marchese Lorenzo Ginori.

After years of famine and poverty during the government of the Medici dynasty, the Querceto conditions much improved, thanks to the Ginori's administration. In 1814, Carlo Leopoldo inherited from his mother Francesca the estate; from then onwards the castle and the estate belong to



the family. He made many modern reforms in the methods of cultivation and was especially interested in cattle breeding. In 1834 he built the bridge on the river Cecina near the village of Ponte Ginori that connected the estate with the public road of the Val di Cecina. In the 20th century with Lorenzo and his son Leonardo the farming of the land was much promoted and the estate became a model of agricultural enterprise. In these days the village is completely restored and typical rustic style but comfortable holiday apartments have been made.

- **Day Seven: 6 June 2008 Saturday**

Early morning departure to your next destination by private transfer.

### **Prices:**

**Please be aware that while the bedrooms in the villa are all beautiful and luxurious, they are of different sizes, since the Villa was the Antinori family's private residence.**

**Therefore the different prices listed below are based on the sizes of the 8 rooms at the Villa, for the 6 nights staying.**

**The prices below are the final prices inclusive for the 7 days/ 6 nights Tour based on double occupancy**

**Master Suite at Villa Guado al Tasso (Approx 330 sq. ft. – 1 available) = \$ 6,500 per person - double occupancy)**

**Deluxe Suite at Villa Guado al Tasso (Approx 290 sq. ft. – 1 available) = \$ 6,200 per person – double occupancy)**

**Suites at Villa Guado al Tasso (Approx 240 sq. ft. – 3 available) = \$ 5,900 per person - double occupancy)**

**Junior Suites at Villa Guado al Tasso (Approx 180 sq. ft. – 2 available) = \$ 5,700 per person - double occupancy)**

Included in the above prices:

- ❖ Private transfers from your arrival airport in Italy (Rome, Florence or Pisa airports) to Villa Guado al Tasso (Additional arrangements can be made for those arriving earlier in Italy, coming from another Italian city at an additional cost)
- ❖ 6 nights at Villa Guado al Tasso – home of the Antinori family in luxury accommodations with en suite bathrooms.
- ❖ Daily breakfast at Villa Guado al Tasso
- ❖ 6 Dinners with wines while staying at Villa Guado al Tasso
- ❖ All lunches while staying at Villa Guado al Tasso.
- ❖ Selected special SPA treatment at the Tombolo Talasso resort.
- ❖ Private wine tastings and visits to the Sassicaia, Ornellaia, and Castello Ginori.
- ❖ Wine tasting followed by dinner with Allegra Antinori
- ❖ Full guest bar available at Guado al Tasso with spirits, beer and red and white estate wines
- ❖ Private Transportation for all tours while at Guado al Tasso
- ❖ Cooking demonstration at Guado al Tasso
- ❖ Entrance to the Uffizi Museum and Corridoio Vasariano (secret corridor built by the Medici family above the Ponte Vecchio to Pitti Palace)
- ❖ Private transportation from villa to your next destination on 6 June 2009
- ❖ All taxes including room taxes and VAT

Reservations are subject to availability.

Documents required are subject to participants' nationality.

Not included in the above prices:

- ❖ Air Tickets

*On this tour:*

- We will visit the beautiful Bolgheri region on the Tuscany Coast, and enjoy private visits of some of the most prestigious wineries in Italy: Ornellaia, Sassicaia, and Guado al Tasso
  - Spend a day at the beach where you can relax and enjoy the beauty the Tuscany Coast has to offer.
  - Shop in Florence for the finest of leathers with world-renowned quality, workmanship, and selection. Stroll on Via de Tornabuoni for the latest in fashions. View the Renaissance masterpieces in the many museums of artistically abundant Florence. Share the view from the Ponte Vecchio as it is reflected in the Arno, the only bridge remaining after World War II.
  - Experience fully the subtle and enchanting allure of the Tuscan coast and countryside and most importantly, **YOU WILL RELAX, ENJOY WONDERFUL WINES, AND HAVE FUN!!!**
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**We strongly encourage purchasing travel insurance for all international travel when you send in your deposit.**

Web sites:

[www.antinori.it](http://www.antinori.it)

[www.ornellaia.it](http://www.ornellaia.it)

[www.sassicaia.it](http://www.sassicaia.it)

[www.tombolo-talasso.com](http://www.tombolo-talasso.com)

<http://www.terlatowines.com>